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The PT Clinic: A Review of Ethical and Legal Concepts and Case Scenarios
(1 CE HOUR / .1 CEUs)

PDH Academy Course #PT-1705

Course Abstract

This course provides a practical review of common legal and ethical issues that pertain to the physical therapy (PT) workplace. It defines terms that affect PT practice; reviews concepts such as malpractice, whistleblowing, and mandatory reporting; and addresses the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Code of Ethics. It also presents several case scenarios, analyzing each via the Realm-Individual Process-Situation (RIPS) Model of Ethical Decision Making.

NOTE: Links provided within the course material are for informational purposes only. No endorsement of processes or products is intended or implied.

Approvals

To view the states who approve and accept our courses, visit <https://pdhtherapy.com/physical-therapy/state-requirements/>.

Target Audience & Prerequisites

PT, PTA – no prerequisites

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, learners will:

Recall ethical and legal terms relevant to the practice of physical therapy

Recognize the rationale for, and key principles of, the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) code of ethics

Identify aspects of the Realm-Individual Process-Situation (RIPS) Model of Ethical Decision Making

Timed Topic Outline

I. Defining Physical Therapy (PT) Practice (5 minutes)

II. The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Code of Ethics (5 minutes)

III. Professional Negligence and Malpractice (5 minutes)

IV. Whistleblowing and Mandatory Reporting (5 minutes)

V. The Realm-Individual Process-Situation (RIPS) Model of Ethical Decision Making (35 minutes)

VI. Appendices, Additional Resources, References, and Exam (5 minutes)

Delivery Method

Correspondence/internet self-study with a provider-graded multiple choice final exam. *To earn continuing education credit for this course, you must achieve a passing score of 80% on the final exam.*

Cancellation

In the unlikely event that a self-study course is temporarily unavailable, already-enrolled participants will be notified by email. A notification will also be posted on the relevant pages of our website.

Customers who cancel orders within five business days of the order date receive a full refund. Cancellations can be made by phone at (888)564-9098 or email at support@pdhacademy.com.

Accessibility and/or Special Needs Concerns?

Contact customer service by phone at (888)564-9098 or email at support@pdhacademy.com.

Course Author Bio and Disclosure

Scott Cheatham, Ph.D., DPT, PT, OCS, ATC, CSCS, is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Kinesiology at California State University Dominguez Hills in Carson, California. He received his Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree from Chapman University and his PhD in Physical Therapy from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Cheatham is a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) and a board certified specialist in orthopedics (OCS). He also holds several fitness certifications and is a certified ergonomic specialist.

Dr. Cheatham is a consultant providing physical therapy expert testimony, chart review, and education for various organizations and government agencies. Dr. Cheatham is an expert for the Physical Therapy Board of California and an approved provider for California PT Laws and Ethics education. He currently serves on professional practice and ethics boards for various organizations.

As an educator and practitioner, Dr. Cheatham is able to provide a unique perspective and understanding of complex physical therapy legal cases. Dr. Cheatham has served as an expert for both plaintiff and defendant cases, and primarily works as a physical therapy expert witness in the continental United States.

DISCLOSURES: Financial – Scott Cheatham received a stipend as the author of this course.
Nonfinancial – No relevant nonfinancial relationship exists.